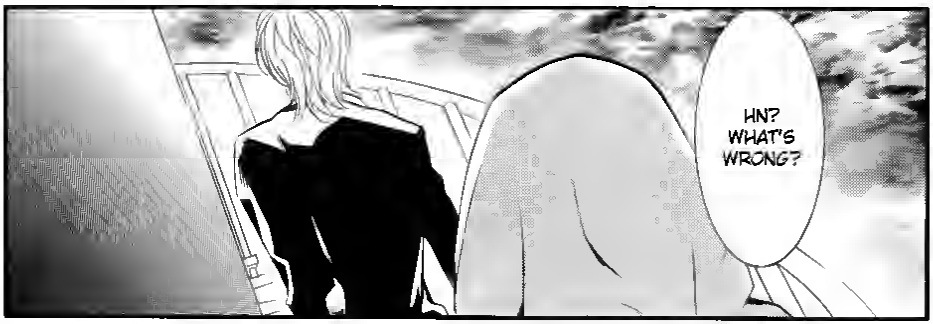
PAYMENT : 80

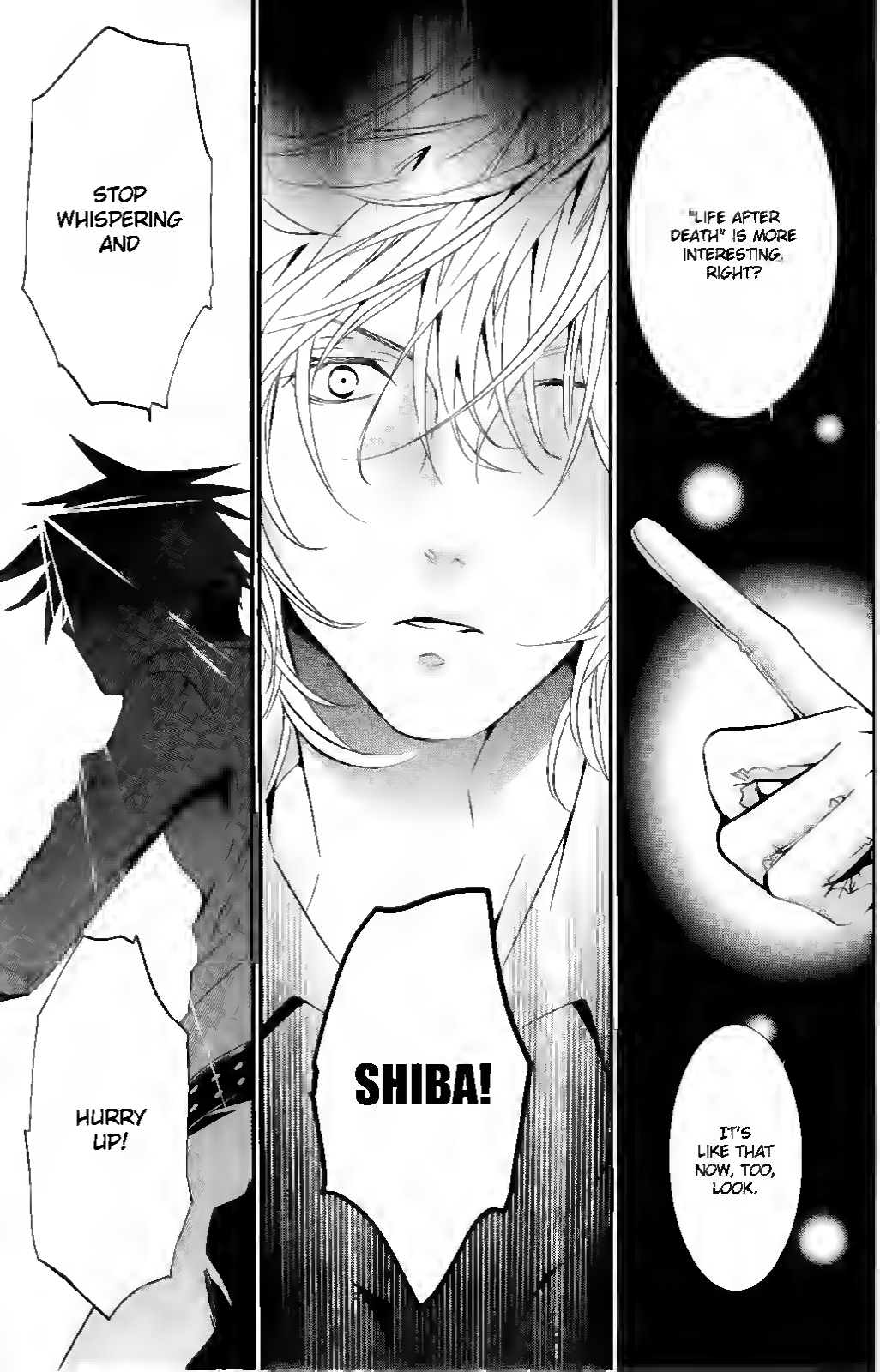
OH WELL, WE CAN ONLY MOVE FORWARD!
YEAH, I DIDN'T LIKE ELECTRONICS TO BEGIN WITH.
LET'S HURRY!


HN? WHAT'S WRONG?

YOU'VE MADE IT THIS FAR, SO WHY ARE YOU STILL MAKING SUCH A GLOOMY FACE?

SO THEN, I UNDERSTAND IT NOW.
I GUESS I'M ANNOYED AT SEEING THE "REAL THING".
FUU
YOU'RE RIGHT... IT SEEMS.
AH---- AS I THOUGHT, I'M NOT COOL AT ALL.
I'M JUST A USELESS PIECE OF TRASH.
I FINALLY UNDERSTOOD.
SO, WHAT ABOUT ME?
THOSE WHO WANTED TO DIE CANNOT BE SAVED.

LIFE WAS BORING; LIVING STUPIDLY IN A PREDESTINED ONE. SO I COMMITTED SUICIDE.
IN THE END, TURNING INTO A ZOMBIE WAS ALSO SET UP FOR ME.
A CLOWN... NO, NOT EVEN ONE,
JUST A DABBLER.
IT'S A BIT... SURPRISING.
WELL, I KNEW FROM THE FIRST TIME I MET YOU THAT YOU HAVE DIED.
THE YOU FROM THEN LOOKED VERY HAPPY.
VERY.


STOP WHISPERING AND
HURRY UP!
SHIBA!
"LIFE AFTER DEATH" IS MORE INTERESTING, RIGHT?
IT'S LIKE THAT NOW, TOO, LOOK.

CHIKA
CAN'T YOU HEAR ME? YOU'RE COMING TOO!
COME ON, SHIBA!
OKAY...

.....
EH? THAT ELEVATOR?
CAN IT BE... NO WAY...
WHAT IS IT?
CAN IT BE KANRO AND THEM?

THEY'RE ...!

NERI!
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO, ORDERING US AROUND...?
HOLD ON TO THE SHIP'S EDGE, EVERYONE.
SO THAT YOU WON'T GET WASHED AWAY.
YOU SAID YOU ONLY WORK FOR MONEY, RIGHT?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?

THE "THREAD"!
USE MY THREADS!
THREADS?
.....
YOU MEAN, "THREADS OF LIFE" ...?

.....
WHAT ARE THOSE GUYS TALKING ABOUT?
WHAT... ARE YOU... TALKING... ABOUT...
SPREAD IT...? LIKE A ROPE?
WHAT... DO YOU WANT TO DO WITH IT...?
IF YOU USE THAT, YOU CAN MAKE IT SPREAD, RIGHT?
MY THREADS... THEY'RE QUITE STRONG, RIGHT?

SEND US TO THE DECK...
EVEN IF YOU CAN'T GET CLOSE TO IT, AS LONG AS IT'S CLOSE ENOUGH FOR EVERYONE ON BOARD TO GET ON SHORE...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
NERI CAN CONTROL THE THREADS OF LIFE AND FREELY CUT OR EXTEND IT.
SUCH A... RECKLESS... IDEA... NO ONE HAS DONE IT BEFORE...
THE THREAD MIGHT BREAK ON THE WAY...
THE STRENGTH OF THREAD IS DEPENDENT ON ONE'S VITALITY...
NO ONE HAS THOUGHT OF USING IT AS A ROPE BEFORE.

THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE, HURRY UP AND DO IT.
ARE YOU... SURE? IF THE THREAD BREAKS, THIS TIME YOU WILL REALLY...
IT'S FINE! IT WON'T BREAK!
THERE'S NO "IF" IN MY DICTINOARY.
HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE ...?
I JUST KNOW.
MY LUCK IS GREAT.
IT WON'T BREAK!

...I GIVE UP...
WHAT A BUNCH OF IDIOTS.
FOR NOW, MONEY IS NOT A PROBLEM...
EH...

NERI...?
...?
OH, RIGHT...
MY BODY... FEELS... ITCHY...
NO... I'M... OLDER...
AND,
RI-RIGHT... I'LL CALL YOU NERI-SAN FROM NOW ON!
YOU CALLED... ME... BY MY... NAME...
TIE THE ENDS... OF THESE THREADS...?
HOW SHOULD I...
!
IS THERE ANYTHING THAT COULD BE HELD ONTO ON SHORE...?
I SEE...

HN?
Even though I'm not too sure
OKAY...!

EH...
MUGI ...!?
YOMI-SAN, I'M GONNA BORROW THIS.
MU?
REACH IT!!
ミコトォォォォォ!?

UWAA...
MU
OOOOOO—!?

THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN...!
WH-WHY ARE THEY...?
ARE THEY GATHERING TO SECURE ELIZABETH'S CHILD LIKE THE OTHER TWO?
!
NO WAY...

ELIZABETH'S CHILD.
FOUND HIM,
GARBAGE IS GARBAGE; CONTRADIC-TIONS
MUST BE ELIMINATED.
WE WILL NOT PERMIT YOU TO MOVE FROM THERE.
THIS...
I KNEW IT.

I DIDN'T THINK THAT YOU COMMITTEE OF SEVEN WOULD...
LET'S TRY TALKING IT OUT FIRST... IF YOU'RE SEARCHING FOR ELIZABETH'S CHILD, THEN YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG PERSON.
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO WITH ONLY ONE PADDLE, BEKKO?
HOHO... WE'RE NOT INTERESTED IN LISTENING TO SOME TRAITOR'S LIES.
FERRYMAN!
AKATSUKI!

WAIT! IF YOU GET HIT BY THESE PADDLES, YOU'LL DEFINITELY DIE THIS TIME...
YOUR WEAPONS ARE THE SAME; DON'T TOUCH THEM.
YEAH, CHIKA, SHITO! RUN,
JUST KEEP RUNNING UP THESE STAIRS!
UWAA!

SHIBA!
WAIT!
UNFORTUNATELY,
I'M CURRENTLY
A HIGANBITO,
SO THIS
PADDLE
HAS NO
EFFECT
ON ME
AT ALL...
CHIKA,
SHIBA
...!?

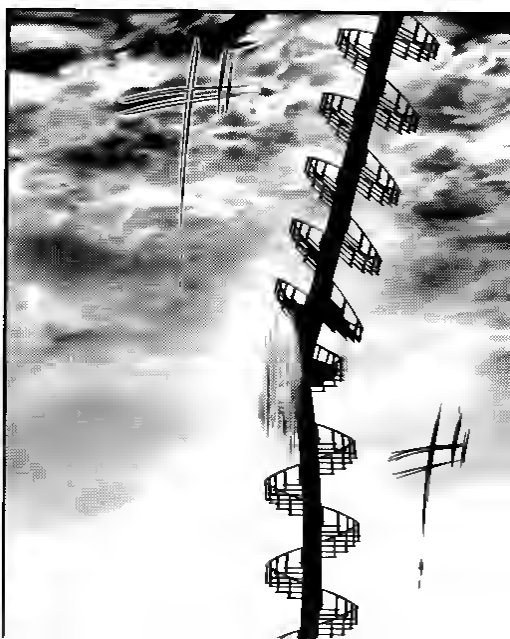
RUN.
DIDN'T YOU WANT TO SAVE THE PRINCESS?
IT'LL LOOK BAD IF EVERYONE ARRIVES LATE, RIGHT?
HURRY UP AND GO.
I'LL COME WITH BEKKO-SAN LATER.

THEIR TARGET IS ME.
IF IT'S JUST YOU TWO, YOU SHOULD BE FINE.
LOOK, THE ELEVATOR'S OPEN.

SHITO
OH, RIGHT, THE ELE-VATOR ...
JUMP! AKATSUKI!
IF NOT, OUR RIGHT HANDS!
B-BUT...
HURRY!
.....

YOU...

SHIBA
...!?



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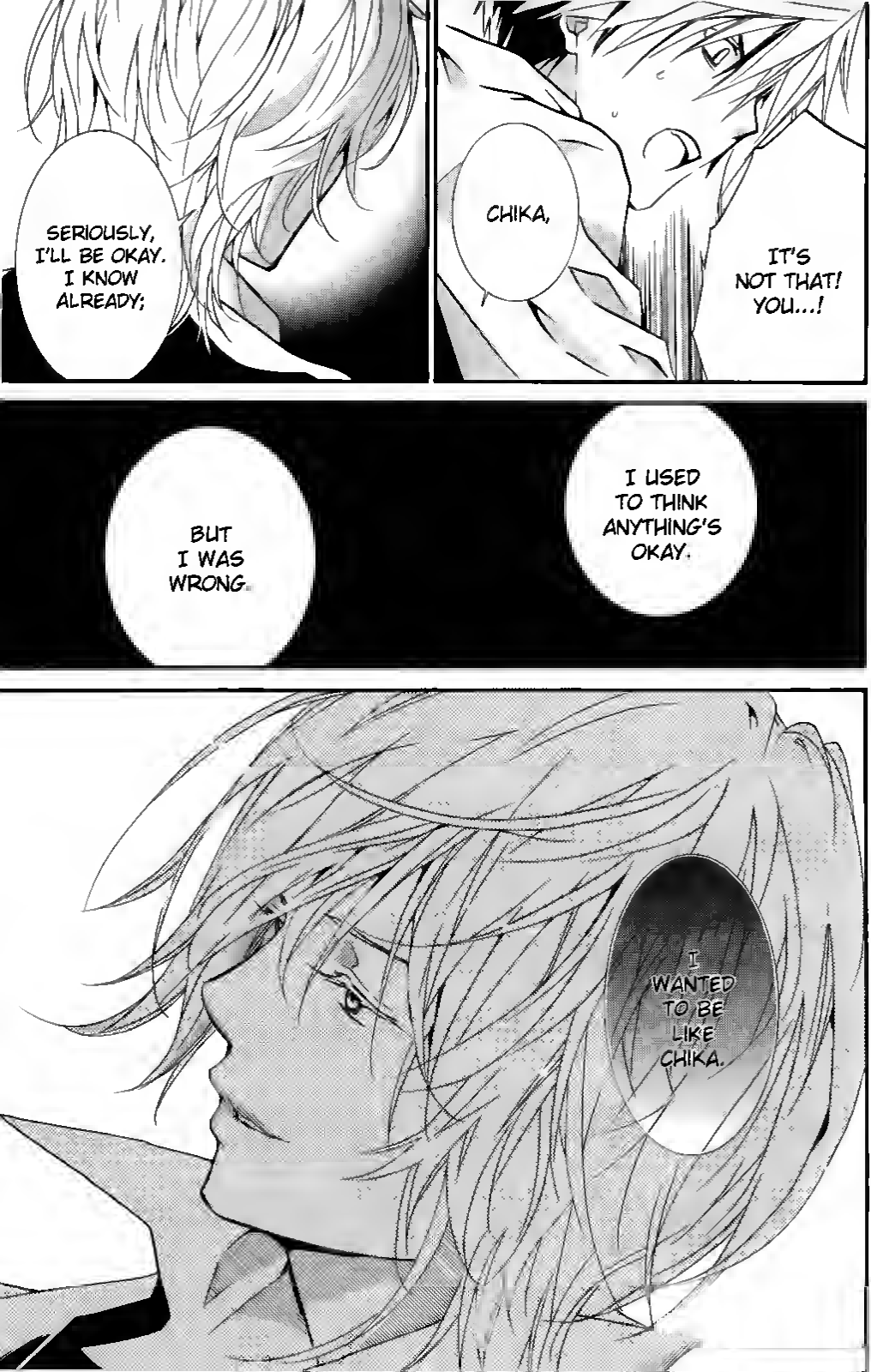
Tr Tori
Cl Kayuka
Cl Younocha

PAYMENT : 81

THAT GUY...! WHAT'S HE THINKING?!
WAAH
THE STAIRS...

LET'S GO, YUUTA-KUN.
EHHH?
COME ON! AKATSUKI!
WE CAN ONLY GO UP USING THE ELEVATOR.

WAIT...
DAMN.
DON'T WORRY. I CAN STILL HOLD ON FOR AWHILE LONGER; I WON'T FALL JUST YET.
FASTER.
GO, CHIKA.


SERIOUSLY, I'LL BE OKAY. I KNOW ALREADY;
CHIKA,
IT'S NOT THAT! YOU...!
I USED TO THINK ANYTHING'S OKAY.
BUT I WAS WRONG.
I WANTED TO BE LIKE CHIKA.

ZARAME... ZARAME,
YOU OKAY? GOOD JOB.
HN...?
MU...
MU...
HAH... FINALLY... SO SCARY...

WHAT'S WRONG? DOES SOMEWHERE HURT?
.....
WHAT? WHAT'S THIS LIGHT ...?
ポウ
EH? YOU'RE DYING?
SORRY, BECAUSE YOU HAD TO HELP YOMI AND THEM...
NO!
THE CORE!
MY CORE IS NEARBY AND IT'S RESONATING.
WHAT CORE ...?
THAT MAN---

BROTHER, OUR TARGET IS THAT GUY; WE SHOULD IGNORE THE OTHERS.
LET'S GO.
!?
FEEL'S LIKE SOMETHING'S GONNA HAPPEN---
SHIBA!
WAIT AKATSUKI, LOOK DOWN.

IF YOU GO DOWN NOW, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO CLIMB BACK UP. IT'LL COLLAPSE ANY TIME NOW.
WE CAME TO SAVE MICHIRU, RIGHT?

I'M NOT A ZOMBIE RIGHT NOW, I'M A SHINIGAMI.
I CAN TAKE CARE OF THESE HIGANBITO WITH A SWING OF THE SCYTHE.
CHIKA, DID YOU FORGET?
B-BUT... BUT... BUT THEN...
RUN, CHIKA.
FLY.
YOU'RE A MAN, RIGHT?

DAMN IT!
I'M COMING BACK SOON. DON'T DIE ON ME BEFORE THAT!
HAHA
WILL YOU GIVE ME A KISS IF I'M A GOOD BOY?
I'LL KISS YOU AS MUCH AS YOU WANT! THEN I'LL BEAT YOU UP!
IF YOU DIE,
SO, DON'T DIE!

I'LL
KILL
YOU!

ARE YOU READY, ELIZABETH'S CHILD.
THEN, COME WITH US.
!
EH... WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW...
YOU GUYS SEEM VERY VIOLENT, SO...
THE STAIRS! IT'LL COLLAPSE ....!
BROTHER, HOLD ON QUICK!

YOU KNOW, I REALIZED SOMETHING.
THAT TIME... THE REASON WHY I COULDN'T TAKE OUT THE SCYTHE...
WASN'T JUST BECAUSE MY CONDITION WAS BAD,
NOR WAS IT BECAUSE SINGULARITY WAS NEARBY...
IT WAS BECAUSE IF I TRANSFORM IT INTO DATA IN HIGAN, IT WILL BE MARKED AS "INCORRECT USAGE".
THE RETURN DEADLINE OF THE CORE WILL DECREASE BY ITSELF.

I CANNOT BECOME A SHINIGAMI;
BEKKO-SAN SAID THAT ALREADY...
YOU'RE NOT ELIZABETH'S CHILD!?
THE CORE ...!
I CAN'T EVEN BECOME A SINGULARITY OR ELIZABETH'S CHILD.
NOT HUMAN, NOR A ZOMBIE - A GOOD-FOR-NOTHING.
WHAT'S HE DOING ...!?
GOOD, THE ELEVATOR'S MOVING.
WAIT!

THE LAST BIT OF POWER...
SINCE I'LL HAVE TO RETURN IT ANYWAY, I'LL USE UP
HN... TRYING TO COMMIT SUICIDE?
HE TOOK OUT THE CORE ...?
AT THE VERY LEAST,
I WANT TO...
FINISH SOMETHING PROPERLY.

SHIBA...!
HO... SO THAT'S THE SCYTHE... IT'S MY FIRST TIME SEEING IT...
BROTHER, WHAT IS THAT?!
THAT'S THE SCYTHE OF CONVIC-TION.
IT WAS CREATED TO KILL THE SHINIGAMI, BUT IT CAN ALSO EXECUTE SINNERS FROM HIGAN.
BUT FOR SOMEONE THAT IS NOT A HIGANBITO TO USE IT IS THE SAME AS TOUCHING FIRE WITH BARE HANDS.
HE PROBABLY WON'T LAST FOR MORE THAN A FEW MINUTES.

SHIBA !!
DAMN! THAT IDIOT!!
CALM DOWN!
UU
UOOO...

BEKKO-SAN?
A SOUL IS THE CRYSTAL LIZATION OF THOUGHTS...
IT'S ENERGY THAT HIGAN-BITO DO NOT POSSESS.
UNLIKE HUMANS, HIGANBITO ONLY HAVE ONE TYPE OF ORGAN.
THEY DON'T HAVE THE ESSENTIAL EMOTIONS OF A LIVING BEING... THE THING THAT CAN MOVE A SOUL.
THIS IS GOOD.
INDEED, HE'S A FINE SOUL.
AKA-TSUKI ...!
KU...

ANY KIND OF EMOTIONS WOULD MAKE A FINE SOUL.
OR LOVE;
FOR EXAMPLE: GREED,
"MONEY" IS THE CRYSTAL-LIZATION OF GREED BY HUMANS.
GREED IS AN IMMOV-ABLE FEELING... IN A SENSE IT'S AN IMMACULATE ENERGY.
"FOR MONEY", "TO LIVE", THE DESIRE OF LIFE... WHEN THE SOUL MOVES AROUND, THE WORLD WILL ALSO MOVE WITH IT...
--BUT,
THAT'S WHY I CREATED ZOMBIE-LOAN AND GATHERED MONEY.

COMPARED TO "GREED", "LOVE" IS MUCH WEAKER.
BUT THE WEAKER IT IS, THE BRIGHTER IT WOULD SHINE IN AN INSTANT.
CHIKA'S FEELINGS OVER SHIBA RIGHT NOW,
SHIBA-KUN'S SUICIDAL ACTIONS AS WELL...

ARE SO THEY THEMSELVES CAN LIVE ON, THE THOUGHT OF MICHIRU,
EVERYONE IN Z-LOAN,
EVEN THOUGH MICHIRU DOESN'T HAVE ORGANS, LIKE US HIGANBITO,
THE THOUGHT OF THEM--
IT'S BECAUSE THESE KINDS OF THOUGHTS MAKE THE WORLD REVOLVE--

DAMN YOU...
THIS... CONTRADICTION ...!!
FUU...
JUST ONE MORE
CAN I HOLD ON?
SHIBA!

YOU HAVE THE SAME EYES AS THAT TIME.
CHIKA...
BUT
THIS IS CHIKA.
IDIOT... IT'S NOT POSSIBLE
TO REACH FROM THERE

SHIBA...
HOLD ON.
RETURN TO DUST, YOU CONTRA-DICTION...!
NO WAY ...

WHA--
WHAT
LET'S GO SOMEWHERE, SHIBA.

IF A FAILURE SUCH AS MYSELF
I WANT TO GO TOO, CHIKA.
UN, LET'S GO.

...
I'LL DEFINITELY---
CAN CHOOSE WHERE TO GO IN THE END.

ドク…
ドク…
ドク…

フィ
...I'M FINE.
オオオ
AKA-TSUKI...
DON'T LOWER YOUR GUARD.
YOU TOO.

THIS IS IT...
WE'LL SAVE MICHIRU...!

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PAYMENT : 82
WELCOME, MY DEAR IRRATIONALITIES
I'VE BEEN WAITING

"ALL THOSE WHO PASS THIS GATE, ABANDON ALL HOPE"
GATE ... ?
THE TOP LAYER OF HIGAN ...
FURTHER BEYOND THAT GATE IS SHIGAN
... YUUTA ?

OH MY... INSPECTOR, ISN'T YOUR WEAPON ELIZABETH'S CHILD?
I EVEN LET YOU HAVE IT.
BEKKOU-CHAN, YOU AREN'T GOING TO HELP EITHER ARE YOU?
EEH.... I'M JUST HERE TO SEE WITH MY OWN EYES
THE DEAL MADE LONG AGO
DEAL ?
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN ?
FINE,
YOU CAN SEE IT WITH YOUR OWN EYES FIRST

!
THIS IS ...
BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T IT ?
THOSE COUNTLESS LITTLE LIGHTS ARE EACH INDIVIDUAL HUMAN WHO ARE LIVING THEIR LIVES
IT'S THRILLING HOW SOMETHING SO LARGE COULD BE SO SMALL

IN ORDER TO REDEEM THEM, BEKKOU-CHAN AGREED TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.
IN THIS BET TO DESTROY AND REBUILD THE WORLD.
YOU TWO ARE THE PIECES.
BEKKOU -CHAN AND I HAVE A BET
THE TWO OF YOUR SOULS ARE NOT CONTAINED IN THE MORTGAGE

HE'S BECOME SO DELUSIONAL HE THINK HE'S THE EVIL OVERLORD ...
... HUH ?
I RECOGNIZE THE WORLD AS CONSISTENT OF
THOSE WHO ARE AWARE AND POSSESS THOUGHTS... IN OTHER WORDS, THE HUMAN BEINGS WHO MAKE UP THE WORLD
THIS IS THE ONE SINGLE POINT WHERE THEY ALL CONVERGE AND INTERSECT
THE CONCEPT OF THE STORY IS
OH MY, THAT'S NOT TRUE
IF YOU CAN TOUCH IT,
THEN YOU CAN DESTROY THE WORLD WITHOUT WEAPONS OR WAR
... YES
MY ROLE IS TO KEEP THE BALANCE OF THE WORLD AND WATCH IT ...
!
I EXIST TO PROTECT THE SINGULARITY FROM UNFAIR USAGE
MICHIRU !
SINGULARITY

WELL, LET'S GET STARTED, INSPECTOR.
NOW THEN— YOU TWO ZOMBIE SOLDIERS ARE THAT SIDE'S PIECES
AS FOR MY SIDE ... FUFUU
.....
LET'S GO, AKATSUKI!
YEAH !
THIS IS THE ...

LAST BOSS !!
WAIT, YOU TWO !!
WHA-!
HAKKA-SAN'S ABILITY IS THE SAME KIND OF "TWISTING" AS MICHIRU !
IT DOESN'T AFFECT HIM, EVEN IF YOU TEAR HIM INTO PIECES !
FUFU ... SWEETIE ♡

!
FROM THE GATE ... !?
THAT'S ...
...
AM THIS CHILD'S PARENT
BECAUSE I ...

THIS IS MY PIECE
CUTE, ISN'T SHE ?
MICHIRU ... ?
MI ...

TSK ...
.....
IDIOT, THIS IS ....
MY TOY ....
TOY ?
TCH !
WAIT !
YOU MIGHT HIT MICHIRU ...

WHAT…
WELL, TO BE EXACT THE POWER IS A LITTLE DIFFERENT.
DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME BEFORE? I CAN ALSO TWIST THINGS.
I CAN TWIST THE TIME OF THINGS AND PEOPLE BY A SMALL AMOUNT.
PLUS
THE SINGULARITY'S "TWIST" MAKES FOR AN IMPENETRABLE FORTRESS
SO, WHAT NOW?
THERE'S NO MEANING IN HAVING A LONG AWAITED WEAPON IF I CAN'T BE HIT.

LET'S SEE ...
YOUR LITTLE TRICKS KEEP YOU FROM LOSING YOU HEAD ...
!?
I SAID IT ALREADY
I'M IN AN IMPENETRABLE FORTRESS ...

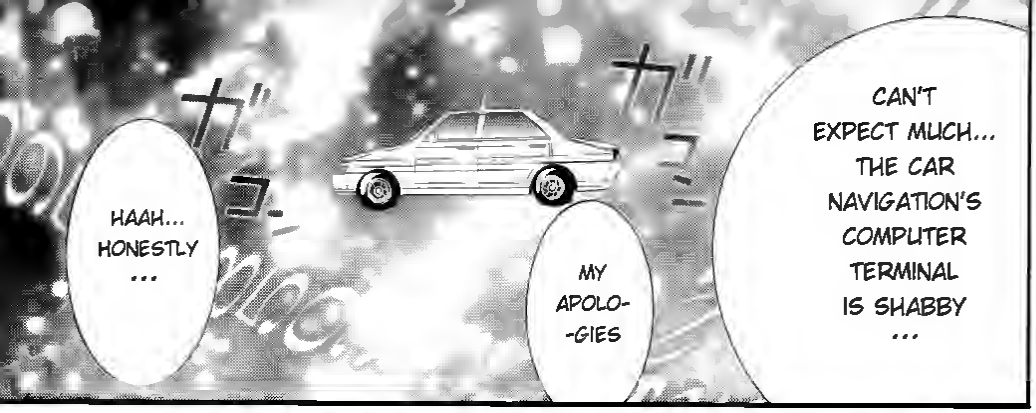
GUH…
HEY, BOYS!
HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF THE ANALOGY WHERE A BICYCLE FALLS OVER WHEN THE WHEELS STOP SPINING?
GUH
THE WHEELS OF FATE SPIN ROUND AND ROUND
THE FATE OF YOU TWO WILL CALL THE NEXT FATE, THAT WILL CALL FOR ANOTHER TO SOLVE IT
THIS WORLD IS ALREADY STAINED WITH IRRATIONALITY
BOUND BY DEBT

THAT'S WHY I WILL TURN EVERYTHING BACK TO ZERO
AND START IT ALL OVER FROM THE BEGINNING !
RESET THE WORLD ...
HE SAID ...?
OH MY ...
IN THE OLDER DAYS, EVEN I COULDN'T AGREE WITH THAT SORT OF THINKING
NOW, COUNTER- -ATTACK TIME !
GO, SINGULARITY !

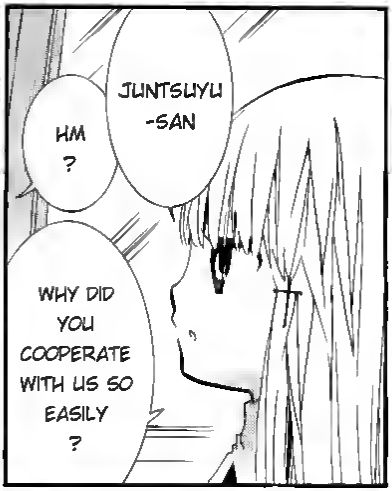
YUUTA
KH ...
CHIKA, SHITO, GO !!
MY BANDAGES CAN RESTRAIN CHIRU-CHIRU'S A BIT
USE THAT OPENING AND HURRY ...
AND STRIKE THE REAL BODY !
... HEY
HAKKA -SAN ...
... !

I WILL LIVE ON!
DO YOU KNOW HOW NICE IT IS NOT TO HAVE THE RING AROUND YOUR NECK EVEN IF YOU'RE BANKRUPT?
YOU'RE KIDDING RIGHT?
HOW POINT-LESS.
EVEN IF I'M IN DEBT,
EVEN IF I'M DEFEATED OR MAKE A MISTAKE
AS... AS LONG AS I'M ALIVE
FOR THE SAKE OF SOMETHING SO POINTLESS LIKE THAT
SHIBA AND MICHIRU
WE
WE'LL COME BACK ALIVE EVEN IF WE'RE DEAD!!

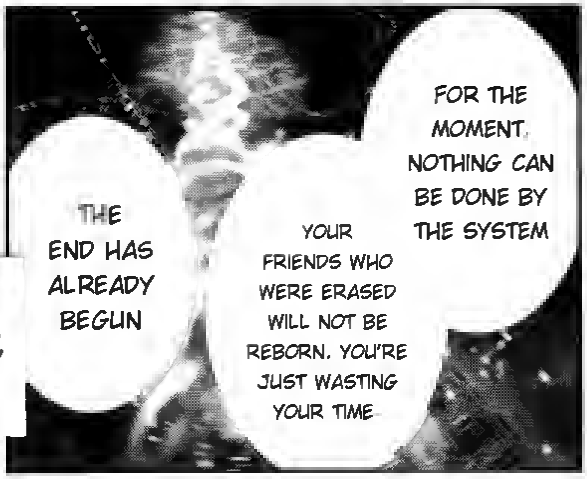
DRIVER-SAN... YOU'RE SHAKING
THAT CAN'T BE HELPED. SINCE YOU'RE IN THE CAR.
HAAH...
HIGANBITO'S FRIENDSHIPS AND BONDS CAN BE BOUGHT
WELL, CHITOSE IS DIFFERENT.
HERE, TAKE IT.
HA... AS EXPECTED OF NERI-SAN TO STILL BE THINKING ABOUT MONEY AT THIS POINT.
YOU'RE BEING THREATENED... BUT LET'S JUST SAY THAT WE'RE ASKING YOU TO GUIDE US...
HAA--AAH...
HOW SCARY

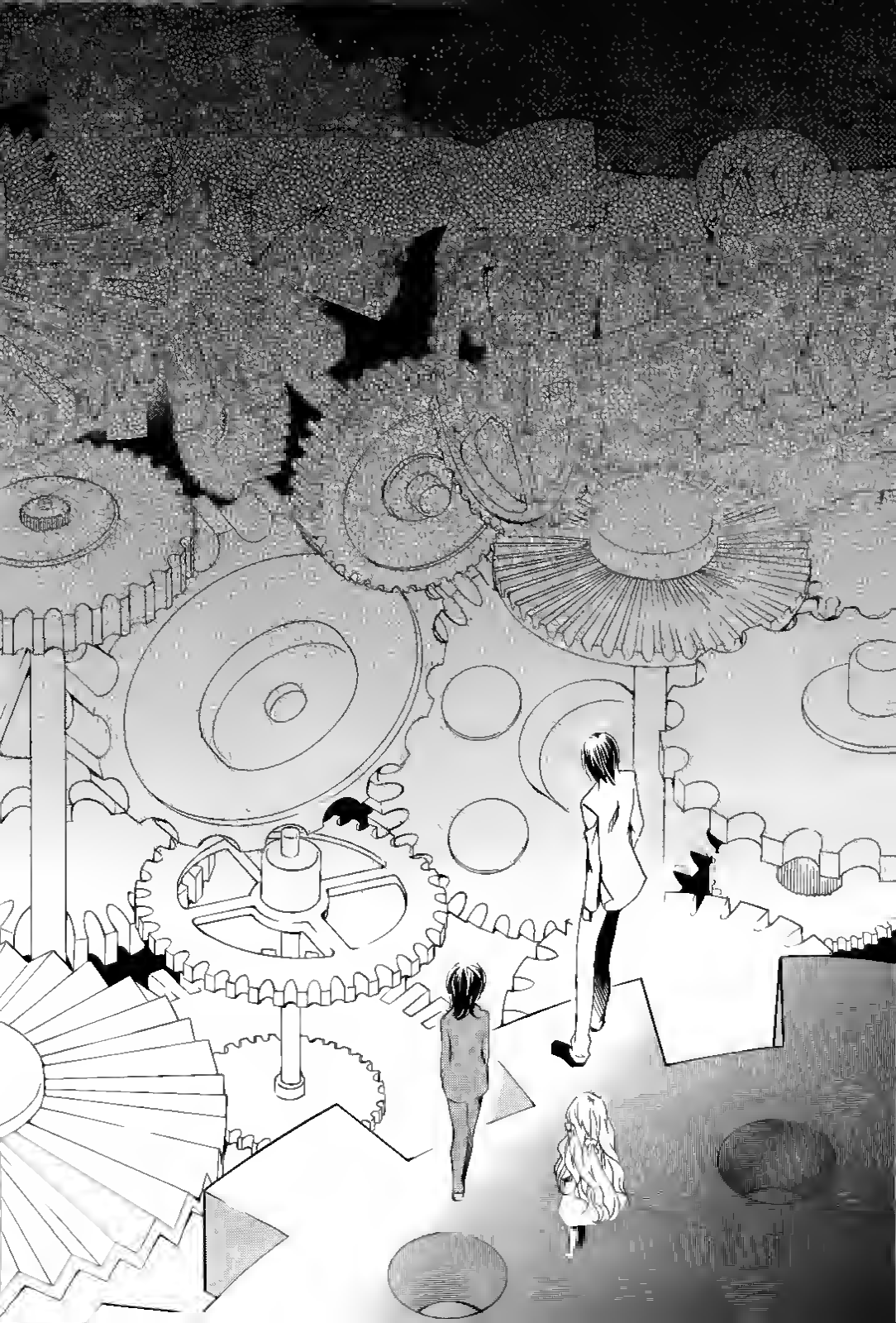

HAAH... HONESTLY ...
MY APOLO--GIES
CAN'T EXPECT MUCH... THE CAR NAVIGATION'S COMPUTER TERMINAL IS SHABBY ...

THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT
HUH
IT SOME OTHER REASON ?
WAS IT REALLY BECAUSE WE THREATENED YOU WAS IT BECAUSE I AM THE KEEPER OF THE "GATES"...OR WAS


HM ?
JUNTSUYU -SAN
WHY DID YOU COOPERATE WITH US SO EASILY ?

THIS IS MY DUTY
BUT,
AND


THE END HAS ALREADY BEGUN
YOUR FRIENDS WHO WERE ERASED WILL NOT BE REBORN. YOU'RE JUST WASTING YOUR TIME
FOR THE MOMENT, NOTHING CAN BE DONE BY THE SYSTEM



JUST IN CASE... I'LL ASK...
ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO DO THIS?
WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT THAT
AN ANALOG LIKE THIS WOULD BE THE SYSTEM THAT CAUSES THE WORLD TO REVOLVE ...
カリコーン
THE "END" MAY HAVE ALREADY BEGUN... BUT...
IF WE CAN... STOP THIS GEAR... JUST FOR A MOMENT
WE CAN GET BACK EVERYONE'S ERASED DATA
AND WE CAN MULTIPLY THE NUMBER OF SOULS OF THE HIGAN
カリコーン

YOMI -SAN, ARE YOU... OKAY WITH THIS ?
ONCE WE GO PAST HERE, WE CAN'T GO BACK... BOTH OF US...
WE'LL BE DISCONNECTED FROM THE RECYCLE SYSTEM AND VANISH
IT'S FINE
SOONER OR LATER, YOMI PLANNED TO RETURN THIS VESSEL TO THAT CHILD
DUTY.... I'M "ELIZABETH'S CHILD", THAT MUCH I'M CERTAIN ABOUT
BUT WHAT ROLE AM I SUPPOSE TO PLAY ?
THAT IS YOMI'S DUTY ...
!
ELIZABETH... WAS PREGNANT AT THE SAME TIME AS THE VIRGIN Mary.
THAT CHILD TOOK THE RESPONSI-BILITY TO SAVE THE MESSIAH
EVEN THOUGH SHE WAS DECAPITATED IN THE END

FROM HERE, WE'LL SPIN OUR LIFE THREADS
MINE ALONE WOULD BE TOO THIN, BUT WITH YOMI-SAN'S JOINED TOGETHER, THEY SHOULD BE STRENGHTHENED
WELL.. AT BEST I THINK IT WOULD BE LIKE A BANDAGE.
YES
TOKO -SAN, ZEN -SENPAI
I KNOW WHAT MY DUTY IS NOW
YEAH, PLEASE
UNTANGLE ALL THE LIFE WE HAVE
MY USELESS GOOD LUCK WILL BE THE ONE THING I'LL LEAVE BEHIND
THEN... SHALL... WE ...?

I AM SURE, FOR THAT REA--SON
...
HAHA, ARE YOU SURE ?
JUST NOW YOU CUT THIS CHILD'S LIMBS, NEXT IS HER LIFE
TSK ...

!?
WHAT'S... THAT SOUND !?
THE DOOR IS JARRED ....
MICHIRU ....!
DAMN, WHAT DO WE DO ...

IT'S FINALLY BEGUN
THE TEMPORARY FILES WERE SO HUGE, IT TOOK A LONG TIME
ONCE THIS DOOR OPENS, THE ENTIRE SYSTEM WILL FALL AND EVERYTHING IN SHIGAN WILL BE ABSORBED INTO HIGAN. THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT WILL END.
"ALL THOSE WHO PASS THIS GATE, ABANDON HOPE"... WASN'T IT...
!!
CHIKA, SHITO, HURRY ...!!
IT WILL BE RESET
THE HOURGLASS WILL BE TURNED OVER ...!
LET'S WORK TOGETHER, AKATSUKI
YEAH !

!
CAUGHT HIM !
HURRY AND USE THIS OPENING ...

FU
...
IT'S
USE-
-LESS.
THIS
IS
THE END

IT'S JUST THIS AFTER ALL THAT EH ?
POINTLESS... INSPECTOR, TAKE A GOOD LOOK.
THE GEARS CANNOT BE STOPPED
IMPOSSIBLE THOSE CHILDREN...
TO BECOME SUCH A THING... I DON'T EVEN KNOW... WHAT TO CALL IT
IN THE END, THEY COULDN'T STOP ANYTHING, NOTHING CHANGED.
EVEN WITH FATE HELD DOWN, THEY COULDN'T EVEN STOP ONE GEAR
HIGAN'S DESCISION TO WATCH SLIPPED THROUGH, ALL THAT WAS LEFT WAS "IRRATIONALITY" IN HIS DESIRE IT WAS USELESS

"ABANDON ALL HOPE",
RIGHT!
THE... GEARS?
!

!?
THE GEARS ARE ...

TDOS & EOS Presents
Zombie Loan
Ts Corke
Pr Twi
Tl Kayuki
Cl Younochi

PAYMENT 8 FINAL

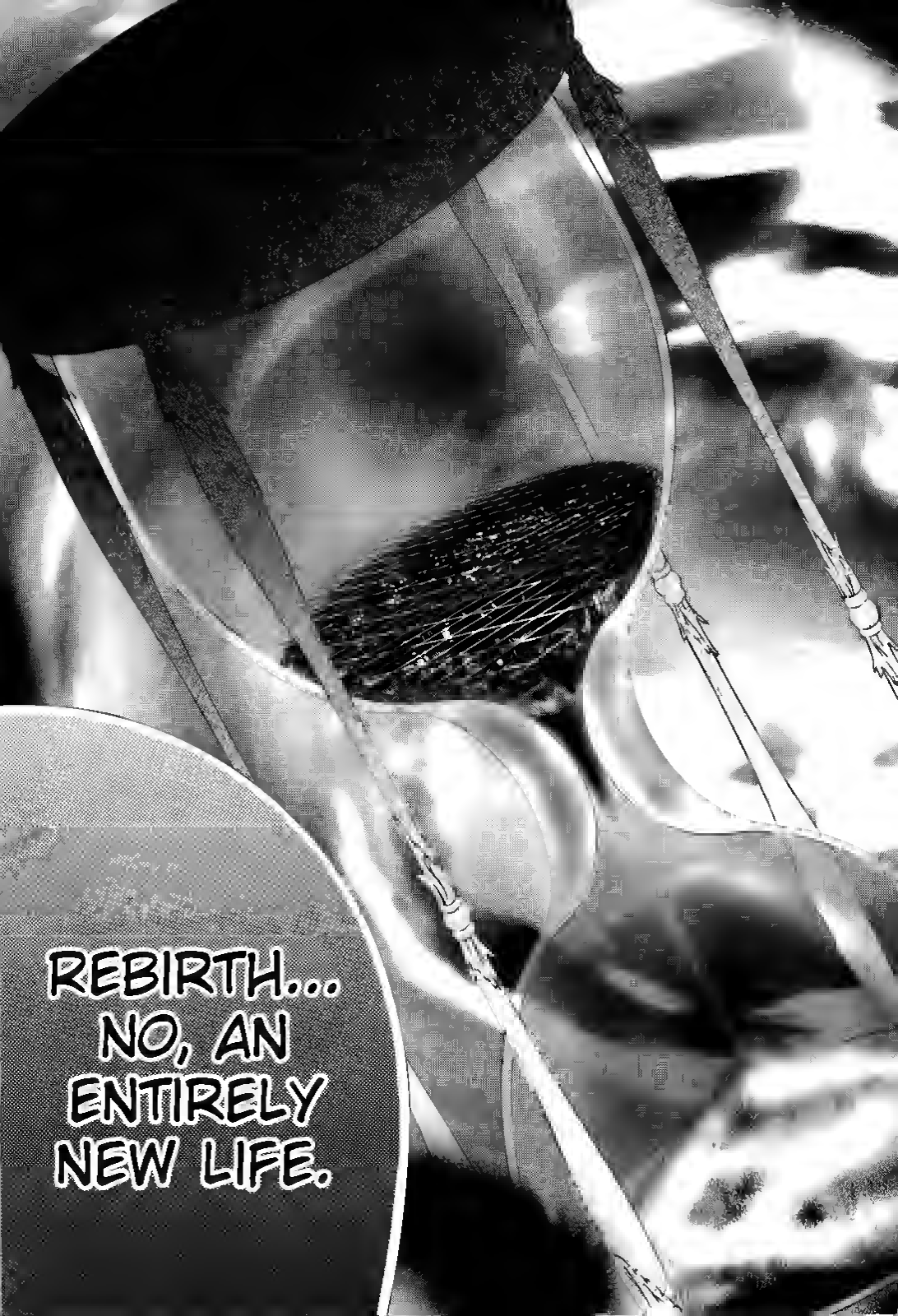
ZOMBIE-LOAD

THE GATE... STOPPED MOVING !?
HE... DIDN'T EXPECTED THIS ?
THE GEARS ...?

AHHH ?!?
WE'RE TOO LATE ...
DID THE AKASHIC RECORD JUST STOP, KANRO-SAN?!
EH, SO THAT MEANS ...
SHUT UP, YOU CAN TELL JUST BY LOOKING!
SOMETHING WENT WRONG WITH THE CORE.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE AKASHIC RECORD TO STOP TURNING.
IT SEEMS WE'VE FAILED TO PROTECT THE "UNCERTAIN FACTOR" ...

HAHA, I SEE... THE "CHILD OF ELIZABETH".
HE THOUGHT ABOUT HIS DUTIES AND SACRIFICED HIS SOUL TO STOP THE GEARS, EH?
BUT IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE TO STOP THE CORE.
MICHIRU ...
HEY YUUTA,
I'M ASKING JUST IN CASE.
THAT GUY SAID THAT IF THE GATE OPENS, THE WORLD WILL END, RIGHT?
IT'S JUST A BLUFF, RIGHT?
... NO.
I WANT TO SAY THAT IT IS A JOKE BUT...

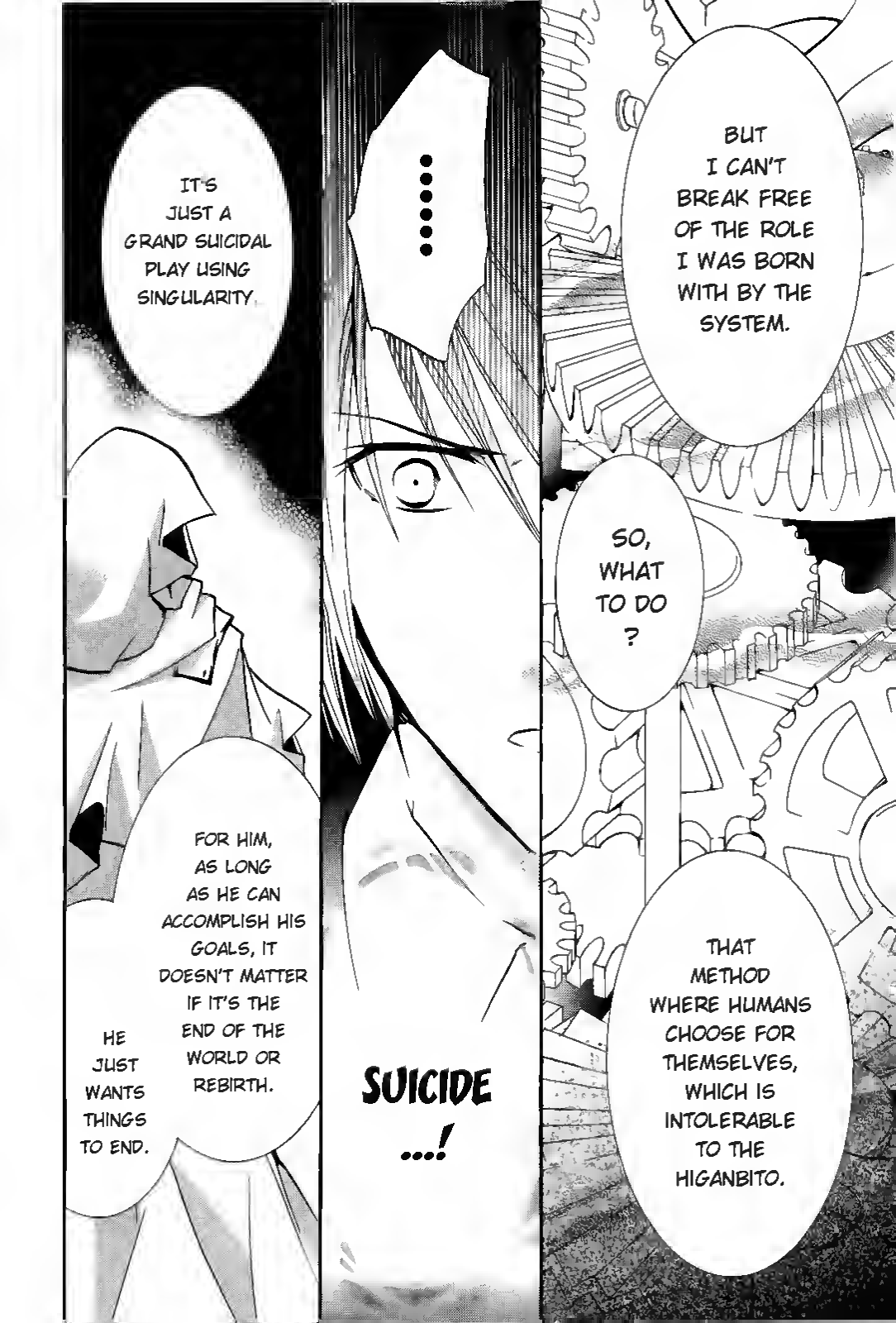
AT THE SAME TIME, EVERYTHING WILL BEGIN.
LIFE AND DEATH, THE STORIES OF SOULS WILL BEGIN.
HIGAN AND SHIGAN, LIFE AND DEATH, PAST AND FUTURE,
EVERYTHING WILL BECOME ONE.


REBIRTH...
NO, AN
ENTIRELY
NEW LIFE.

EH ...
YOU'RE EXAGGE--RATING.
HEY, THERE'S SOMETHING I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
WHAT IS IT ?
PROTECTING THE LAWS IN THE WORLD IS WHAT THE HIGANBITO EXISTS FOR.
SO ...
WHAT DO YOU CALL THIS ACTION OF YOURS ?

"REBELLION"
IT IS AN UNFOR--GIVABLE ACT AGAINST HIGAN.

YES, THAT'S BECAUSE... IF ONE OF THE SYSTEM'S GEARS BEGAN TO REVERSE ITS ROTATION,
ALL THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE IS TO REPLACE THE BROKEN PART ...
BECAUSE THE DEFECTIVE PARTS ARE DISCARDED AS WELL.
KU ...
MY BODY ...!
EVEN IF THE GEARS HAVE NO DOUBTS,
THERE ARE ALWAYS EXCEPTIONS IN THE HIGANBITO THAT ARE BORN
EXACTLY.
HAVING TO WATCH THE NEVER ENDING TURNING OF THE HOURGLASS CONTINUOUSLY
IT BECAME POSSIBLE TO FEEL SICK OF SEEING THE SAME SCENERY ALL THE TIME ...


IT'S JUST A GRAND SUICIDAL PLAY USING SINGULARITY.
HE JUST WANTS THINGS TO END.
FOR HIM, AS LONG AS HE CAN ACCOMPLISH HIS GOALS, IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD OR REBIRTH.
.....
SUICIDE ...!
SO, WHAT TO DO ?
BUT I CAN'T BREAK FREE OF THE ROLE I WAS BORN WITH BY THE SYSTEM.
THAT METHOD WHERE HUMANS CHOOSE FOR THEMSELVES, WHICH IS INTOLERABLE TO THE HIGANBITO.

HOW WAS IT? BEING BORN FROM JOFUKU'S ZOMBIE.
DO YOU WANT TO WORK WITH ME TOO?
EVERYTHING YOU WANT CAN BE FOUND IN THE WORLD OF THE DEAD ...
IT WAS DIFFICULT TO LIVE IN THE LIVING WORLD RIGHT ?
COME ....
WH.. WHAT ...
RIGHT... SO I SENT POISON DOWN TO THE SYSTEM ...
IT FINALLY HIT THE HEART AREA.
SOON
THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATION BETWEEN THE LIVING AND THE DEAD.
THE WORLD WILL FINALLY BECOME ONE.

I'D RATHER DIE THAN WORK WITH YOU.
SCUM LIKE YOU, WHO'S DRAGGING THE WHOLE WORLD INTO COMMITTING SUICIDE ...
MY IMPORTANT PEOPLE DIED BECAUSE THEY WANTED TO PROTECT THOSE THEY LOVED IN THIS SMALL, SMALL, WORLD.
SHITO, LOOK OUT !!

OI MICHIRU !
WHAT ABOUT YOU? DO YOU WANT TO DIE TOO ?
NO, RIGHT ?
YEAH MICHIRU,
YOU TOLD US BEFORE TO
"LIVE ON"
SHOUTING AT US LIKE THE CRIES OF NEWBORNS!

JUMP OUT OF THERE ...!
THAT'S YOU,
NOT ANYONE ELSE.
MICHIRU ....
THE PLACE YOU BELONG IS NOT OVER THERE ...

IT REALLY... DIDN'T WORK ...
IT CUT... OFF...
THE THREAD... OF LIFE ...
!?

NO WAY ...
RE... VERSAL ...?!
THE GATE ...
IT'S CLOSING ...
WH- WHY ...?

HAHA... WHAT...?
IM-PO-SSIBLE...
NO MATTER WHAT GETS MIXED INTO IT,
THE AKASHIC RECORD CANNOT BE STOPPED...
.....I SEE...
STILL TRYING TO RESIST YOUR CREATOR...
NO, IT'S BECAUSE IT'S LIKE THIS...
WELL, WHATEVER.
MICHIRU!!

IT CAUGHT HAKKA-SAN ...!?
CLOSE THE GATE !!
... UGH ...

RIGHT, AIM WELL ...
SFX: AAAAAH!
AND PIERCE MY CORE !

…
…？

I WON'T KILL YOU.
CARRY THE BURDEN OF YOUR SINS UNTIL DEATH
WHY ...
DEATH WILL WASH YOU CLEAN OF ALL THE MESS YOU CAUSED
IF YOU DESIRE... SOMETHING LIKE DEATH, THEN STRUGGLE MORE
AND DEFY FATE

CARRY-
ING
EVERY-
THING
UNTIL
THEN

EH ...?
WHERE... AM I ...?
YOU MESSED THINGS UP...
AGAIN ...
WAA ZARAME-SAN ?!
YOU'VE RETURNED TO A SHINIGAMI?
THEN THIS IS... THE WORLD AFTER DEATH ?!
YEAH.

BUT I FEEL THAT... THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN HERE...
WELL, YES.
I SEE... THEN THAT MEANS THAT I'VE DIED...
.....
THIS IS THE PLACE BEYOND THE DOOR... THIS IS WHERE SOULS ARE GATHERED AND STORED.
THAT'S WHAT HIGAN CALLS THIS PLACE.
...EH ...?
YOU'VE PROBABLY REALIZED IT ALONG THE WAY, RIGHT?
THE TRUTH THAT WAS SEALED DEEP WITHIN YOUR MEMORIES--
YOU WERE BROUGHT HERE ONCE,
RIGHT AFTER YOU WERE BORN.

THE GIRL WHO MANAGES "DEATH" --
...I... SEE...
IS THAT SO...
THE REASON WHY I CAN SPEAK WITH SHINIGAMI OR SEE THE RING OF DEATH... I SEE...
--SINCE THAT TIME...
TO BEGIN WITH, YOU WERE A COMPILATION OF COINCIDENCES MESHED TOGETHER, FORMING AN INEVITABLE EXISTENCE.
YOUR ORIGINAL FORM WAS "WASTE" FROM A NAMELESS STILLBORN FROM AN INFERTILITY TREATMENT.
CLOSER TO DEATH THAN ANYONE IN SHIGAN ...
AN EXISTENCE THAT WAS NOT ALLOWED TO EXIST IF HAKKA DID NOT FIND MERIT FROM IT...

.....
IT IS SIMPLY INEVI-TABLE.
IT'S JUST THAT, PEOPLE WITH SHORT LIVES GATHER AROUND YOU.
EVEN IF IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'VE CAUSED THEIR DEATHS, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT...
YOU KNOW, IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.
EH ?
THIS IS ...
YOU IDIOT.
IT SEEMS THAT YOU DON'T FULLY UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU DID.
DOING SUCH RECKLESS THINGS, YOU THINK YOU'LL STILL BE FINE?
YOU...
EH... REALLY THEN... IF I DIE, WILL IT RETURN TO YOU?
...IT'S FINE NOW, STUPID.
JUST DON'T ERASE YOUR BODY SO EASILY NEXT TIME.
AH... CHITOSE-SAN ?!
EH? WHY ARE YOU STILL SMALL?
YOU STILL HAVE MY CORE, REMEMBER ?!
SERIOUSLY, YOU THINK TOO MUCH.

YOU BROKE DOWN,
BECAUSE YOU WANTED A SINGLE POINT WHERE THE THREADS INTERSECTED IN THIS WORLD.
SINGULARITY IS A SWITCH TO "END" THE WORLD.
BUT THIS "END" STOPPED BECAUSE SOME IDIOTS WERE THERE...
YOU TURNED BACK DURING THAT TIME...
IT'S CURRENTLY STILL MOVING BACKWARDS.
BACK-WARDS ?
AH, SO CLUELESS !
LISTEN, OKAY !
THE WORLD WHERE YOU EXISTED HAS RETURNED TO NORMAL.
YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE DESTROYED IN THE REVERSAL. BUT YOU'RE HERE NOW
BECAUSE OF THAT THREAD.

AH... IT'S LIKE THAT TIME WITH THE RIBBON.
RIGHT, THIS THREAD IS...
THE REVERSAL WILL SOON BE OVER. THE WORLD WILL RETURN TO NORMAL.
DURING REBIRTH, YOU WILL HAVE TWO OPTIONS.
TWO ?
ONE IS TO GO THROUGH THE CYCLE OF LIFE...IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO RETURN TO THE PRESENT.
AND THE OTHER ONE IS...
REBORN FROM THE REVERSAL AND RETURN TO SHIGAN... THE WAY YOU ARE NOW.
BUT THAT WORLD WILL NOT BE THE SAME AS THE PAST WORLD.
IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO RETURN TO LIFE FOR THOSE WHO DIED IN THE REVERSAL.

I...
ONLY YOU WILL RETAIN THE MEMORIES, WHILE THE OTHERS MEMORIES OF "KITA MICHIRU" WILL BE ERASED.
THOSE WHO SHARED STRONG TIES IN THE ORIGINAL WORLD WILL LOSE ITS MEMORIES OF HIGAN.
SO? IS IT TOO CRUEL FOR YOU ...?
IN OTHER WORDS, EVERYTHING RELATED TO Z-LOAN AND YOU WILL BE ERASED.
THEN, WHICH WILL YOU CHOOSE ?

EVEN SO, I...
I WILL--

HEY, DON'T RUN IN THE HALLWAYS
SO- SORRY! I'M LATE FOR CLASS.
AH

AH ...
SOR... SORRY...
WATCH IT.

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR THOSE TWO TO NATURALLY BECOME FRIENDS.
YES... IT SEEMS THAT EVERYTHING'S RETURNED TO NORMAL...
AH
HEH---
AH, SHITO DOESN'T INTERACT WITH CHIKA AT ALL.
I'M NOT TOO SURE ABOUT BEING JOFUKU'S YOUNG MASTER THOUGH NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, HE'S JUST A NORMAL INTERNATIONAL STUDENT
CHIRU -CHIRU'S HAIR IS LONG AGAIN AND SHE DOESN'T WEAR GLASSES ANYMORE
LOOKS LIKE SHE'S HAPPY.
IF SHE'S UNHAPPY... SHE'LL BE IN DEBT AGAIN.
EH... NO WAY...
Z-LOAN WASN'T DEMOLISHED ?
IT'S GONE.

EH... BUT, WHO DOES THE CORE BELONG TO?
ZOMBIES SHOULD NOT EXIST IN THIS WORLD, BUT SINCE SHE'S ON A PERSONAL CONTRACT...OH WELL...
CHITOSE -SAN !?
EH? THE THING ON THE BAG...
THAT'S SOMETHING CREATED BY A CORE
BUT MICHIRU'S BODY IS SOMETHING SHE BORROWED ...
WHAT TO DO, INSPECTOR ?
THERE'S ACTUALLY SOMEONE WITH SYMPATHY IN ARRC...
HOW UNEXPECTED... HE'S A GOOD PERSON.
HM?
SHOULD WE LET A CONTRADICTION LIKE THIS PASS ...?
HM... WHAT TO DO...
YOU'RE TOO LENIENT, INSPEC- TOR.

THE PREVIOUS MEMBERS OF Z-LOAN HAD THEIR MEMORIES ERASED AND RETURNED TO SHIGAN.
THEIR DEBTS ARE CANCELLED.
KANRO -SAN ...
I'M HERE TOO.
AND ...
AH, THERE HE IS!
LET'S GO HOME TOGE-THER!
HEY SHITO --!
WHY IS IT THAT SOMEONE WHOSE THREAD OF LIFE HAS BEEN CUT CAN RETURN ...?
IT'S TOO LENIENT ...
EH? NO, NO. THAT WAS SOMEONE ELSE'S WORK.
IT'S THE DRAGON-FLY FROM YOMI'S THREAD OF LIFE.

WAA, SHITO -KUN !!
OH NO ...!
GOOD-BYE.
AH, GOOD-BYE ...
IT'S THE SHITO FROM BEFORE...

IN A WORLD WHERE ZOMBIES DOES NOT EXIST, ANY ILLOGICAL MEMORY WILL BE FORCEFULLY DISTORTED.
EVEN SO...THERE WILL EXIST SOME PIECES OF MEMORIES THAT CANNOT BE BURIED.
THE MEMORIES WERE NOT COMPLETELY ERASED.
FROM THAT, SOME THINGS MIGHT STAND OUT, JUST LIKE NOW...
HEY ZEN...
HM ?
WE DIDN'T FORGET ANYTHING, RIGHT?
...OI, MICHIRU.
...WHAT IS IT CHITOSE-SAN?

THOSE WHO ARE AT DEATH'S DOOR WILL REPLAY THEIR LIFE'S MEMORIES ON THIS "REVOLVING LANTERN".
THE REVOLVING LANTERN IS THE ONLY THING THAT FATE CANNOT CONTROL.
MEMORIES THAT WERE LOST WILL BE RECOVERED.
DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT ZARAME SAID...?
AH... ABOUT THE "REVOLVING LANTERN" RIGHT?
YEAH.
EVEN THOUGH IT WILL ONLY BE FOR A MOMENT AND THE PERSON WILL DIE IMMEDIATELY AFTER,
BUT THEY WILL DEFINITELY REMEMBER THINGS ABOUT YOU.
HAHA... COULD YOU BE TRYING TO CONSOLE ME, CHITOSE -SAN?
OF-OF COURSE NOT! IDIOT!
THE OTHER ARRC MEMBERS WERE THROWN IN JAIL AND YET I STILL LENT YOU MY CORE.
IT'S NOT GOOD FOR YOU TO KEEP FEELING DOWN.
HA HA HA
IN THE DISTANT FUTURE WHEN CHIKA-KUN AND SHITO-KUN ARE OLD MEN...
MAYBE THEY WILL REMEMBER ME WHEN THEY ARE ABOUT TO DIE...

EVEN IF IT'S ONLY FOR A BRIEF MOMENT,
AS LONG AS OUR THREADS INTERSECT,
IT WILL NOT BE LOST.
ZLOAN

EVEN IF EVERYONE HAS FORGOTTEN,
I WILL STILL REMEMBER.

WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHERE HE IS, HE'LL STILL BE LOCKED IN SO IT DOESN' CHANGE ANYTHING
AN ENDLESS CYCLING OF THE GEARS IS JUST LIKE A PRISON...
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY I'M WORRIED...
IN JAIL.
HEY KANRO-SAN, WHAT HAPPENED TO
HAKKA-SAN?
REST ASSURED, WE'RE THE ONES WATCHING OVER HIM
THEIR SINS WERE SO GREAT NOT EVEN THE SHINIGAMI COULD HANDLE IT... WAS THE EXPLANATION
HAKKA WILL BE IN JAIL FOR MANY MILLENNIUMS... SAME FOR THE OTHER ARRC MEMBERS.
PLOTTING SOMETHING AGAIN IN THE SILENCE...
"...BUT ACCORDING TO THE RECENT INFORMATION,"
"A TANK TRUCK COLLIDED WITH A SCHOOL BUS AND FIRE ERUPTED..."
"TWO HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENTS HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED DEAD"
"THEY ARE"

.....
UM...
IT STARTED AGAIN.
THIS IS WHAT YOU CALL FATE...
WELL THEN, LET'S GO YUUTA-KUN. IT'S GOING TO BE BUSY SOON.
WE NEED TO FIND AN OFFICE NOW.
--
HAH !?
"AYATSUKI CHIKA -KUN (17)"
"TACHIBANA SHITO -KUN (17)"

ACCEPTING
LIFE
LOANS.

TDOS & EOS Presents
Zombie Loan
Ts Corke
Pr Twi
Tl Kayuki
Cl Younochi